

This Week's News

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday April 6th, 2025

Silent Key Martin O'Halloran EI3ILB

We were saddened to learn of the death of Martin O'Halloran EI3ILB on March 31st, 2025. Martin was from Togher in Cork City and a lover of DX operation since passing his radio exam almost forty years ago. We wish to extend our sympathies to his wife Julia, his six sons, extended family, and wide circle of friends.

May he rest in peace.

News from the IRTS

The 2025 Irish Radio Transmitters Society's AGM will take place at 3:00 p.m. sharp on Sunday, April 13th, 2025, in the Morrison Suite at the Woodford Dolmen Hotel in Carlow. Entry to the AGM will only be permitted to fully paid-up IRTS members and in line with previous years, membership will be checked prior to entry. People are reminded to be in the room and seated by 2:45 p.m. as the AGM will start at 3:00 p.m. sharp. The IRTS looks forward to welcoming all its members to the 2025 AGM.

With the SEARG radio rally taking place on Sunday, April 13th, there will be no 80m HF news bulletin that Sunday. The 40m bulletin at 11 a.m. will be read live from the SEARG rally. To facilitate this and due to the lack of HF readers on the day, the 80m bulletin on that day has been cancelled. Normal weekly 80m bulletins will return to normal on Sunday, April 20th.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

All roads lead to the Woodford Dolmen Hotel in Carlow next weekend, April 12th and 13th for the IRTS 92nd AGM weekend which is being hosted by the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC.

The weekend kicks off on Saturday, April 12th at 11 a.m. with a series of workshop talks. There will be five talks in total, each approximately one hour in length talking about various topics relating to the hobby. These talks will conclude at 5 p.m. with a break for lunch from 1 to 2 p.m. Talks will take place on the second floor in the Morrison Suite and admission is free.

On Saturday evening at 7.30 p.m. the IRTS Gala Dinner will take place in the Barrow Suite. Access to the dinner is strictly by ticket only. Tickets costing 40 euro are available to be prebooked until April 8th. Dress code for the function is smart casual.

On Sunday morning April 13th, the SEARG 2025 Radio Rally will take place in the Killeslin Suite on the ground floor of the hotel with doors opening to the public at 10.30 a.m. Please note there will be no access to the general public under any circumstances until 10.30 a.m. The rally will have all the usual traders and exhibitors as well as an excellent quantity of second-hand equipment.

The SEARG Monster Raffle will take place at 12 p.m. With more than 20 prizes already up for grabs, it promises to be a great raffle. The rally will conclude at approximately 1.30 p.m. Admission to the rally is 5 euro with children under 18 free. People attending the rally are

encouraged to wear a badge or an item of clothing with your callsign and name on it so that you will be known. The most unusual or best name badges or item of clothing will win a small prize on the day!

More detailed information about the weekend can be got at irtsagm25.blogspot.com.

For more information about EI2WRC, their activities, and for contact details, please see www.searg.ie

The next HAREC exam is on May 17th

The next HAREC exam will take place on the 17th of May 2025. The location of the exam is the Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport, Stockhole Lane, Clonshagh, Co Dublin, K67 X3H5.

The morning exam will commence at 11 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. The afternoon exam will then commence at 2 p.m. and wraps up at 4 p.m.

For further information, please see the licensing section of the IRTS website or contact Mick EI6IKB at [IRTS_exams /at/ irts.ie](mailto:IRTS_exams@irts.ie).

Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club Meeting

Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club report that their next club meeting will take place at 7.30 p.m. on the 10th of April 2025 in Room 10A05 in the Technological University of the Shannon, Midlands, Midwest at Moylish in Limerick. The featured presentation will deal with building a digital VFO.

VHF/Microwave News

The 145 Alive event takes place next Saturday, April 12th, from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. local time. 41 net control stations will be active across Ireland, England, Scotland, and Wales. All net controllers taking part will be issued with a certificate of appreciation. If any other interested EI stations wish to take part as a net controller, contact the IRTS VHF/microwave managers via email as soon as possible to [VHF_manager /at/ irts.ie](mailto:VHF_manager@irts.ie).

World Amateur Radio Day

World Amateur Radio Day occurs on April 18th, 2025. It was on this day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union was formed in Paris. This year is therefore a special 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union. Since 1925, the IARU has grown to include 160 member-societies in three regions across the world.

International Marconi Day

Shortly afterwards, another notable event will take place. On April 26th, the legacy of Marconi is celebrated during International Marconi Day. This is held annually on the Saturday closest to April 25th which is his birth date. A 24-hour event will take place where operators are encouraged to get on the air and for SWLs to listen out for stations.

Contest Updates

The RSBG 3.5MHz club championship contest continues tomorrow night, Monday the 7th of April using CW from 19:00 UTC until 20:30 UTC.

The IRTS 2m and 70cm Counties Contest will take place on Easter Monday, April 21st. The fast-paced 70cm counties contest starts at 2 p.m. local time and runs for just thirty minutes. The two-metre contest commences immediately afterwards and runs for ninety minutes from 2.30 p.m. until 4 p.m. The modes used will be FM and SSB. Six different contest sections are supported which include a SWL category. Both are fun and friendly events, and all are encouraged to join in. Further information and the rules may be found at www.irts.ie/contests

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Thanks to everyone for sending items into the weekly IRTS radio news. They are very much appreciated and are a great way to update the rest of the community about activities. If you have any club events, activities, meetings, or other items of interest, you are very welcome to email newsteam /at/ irts.ie with the details. These will be automatically forwarded to the IRTS radio and printed news services. The deadline each week is midnight on Thursdays.

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